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1. During the course of the last four years Poland's chemical industry has been able to establish a firm foundation both in respect of technology and production in the fields of inorganic heavy chemicals, fertilizers, coking chemistry, tar distillation, and the manufacture of cellulose fibers. The transfer to large-scale organic synthesis is now in full swing. On the basis of acetylene and ethylene the most promising fields of organic chemistry are being exploited, including plastics, solvents, synthetic fibers, and the various organic intermediates. The benzene occurring in the coking processes is now used primarily for further processing in the chemical field. The versatility and scale of the projects undertaken are causing several difficulties. Shortage of trained personnel is one of the most important obstacles, and considerable attention is now being devoted to this problem. It is planned that in 1955, the production of the Polish chemical industry should account for approximately 13 per cent of the country's total production, and will thus become the most important branch of industry of the country. In respect of value, chemical production will then be exceeded only by the coal-mining industry.

2. The immediate prospects of the industry are also good, so that it seems highly probable that the 1955 planned production goals will be overfulfilled. The lack of trained personnel will be gradually overcome when the numerous technical schools and universities begin turning out more and more graduates.

3. Despite lack of technical men the growth of the industry has been more rapid than that of other branches of industry. The following figures, selected as being of interest to the dyestuffs industry, illustrate this point.

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Planned Development of Polish Production (in 1,000 tons)

	1937	1949	1952	1953	1955
Crude coal tar	101.3	190	350	380	-
Crude benzol	33.2	45	90	110	-
Organic dyestuffs	1.8	3.7	4.5	5.4	7.9

4. These figures were published in 1951 but a later report was published in mid-1953 in the Polish journal "Przemysl Chemiczny" which has been given wide publicity. These figures dealt with actual achievements in terms of percentages (1937 = 100). The most interesting figures were:

Polish Production Figures (1937 = 100)

	1946	1947	1949	1952
Dyestuffs	77.2	104.0	188.4	222.2
Rayon	55.0	90.0	138.0	182.5
Carbide	-	189.0	234.4	259.0
Acetylene	228.2	271.8	393.1	367.5

5. The dyestuffs figures in terms of absolute amounts would, therefore, read:

	Tons
1946	1,390
1947	1,870
1949	3,390
1952	4,000

6. The estimates previously published for 1949 and 1952 were 3,600 and 5,800 tons respectively. The fact that the 1952 estimate is higher than the figure actually achieved shows the extent of the discrepancy between plan and fulfillment.

7. Despite the fact that these figures are not up to the level of the plan, the progress of the industry as a whole has been fast. Whereas overall industrial production was 115 per cent higher in 1953 than in 1949, the output of the chemical industry was 160 per cent. Nevertheless, as the industry becomes more complex, the task of increasing output by 10 per cent per annum becomes steadily more difficult.

8. In 1955 the chemical industry should make up 13 per cent of the total output of Polish industry, though the definition of "chemical industry" is in a sense broader than the normal usage in the West. In Poland, for example, the chemical industry includes rubber goods, cellulose and some building materials.

9. The largest part of the Polish chemical industry is in Silesia and is concentrated mainly around Raziborz (Ratibor), Kedzierzyn (Heydebreck) and Kozle (Cosel), and around Gliwice (Gleiwitz), Zabrze (Hindenburg), Bytom (Beuthen), and Stalingrod (Kattowitz). A new center is around Oswiecim (Auschwitz), Krakow and Tarnow. Brzeg Dolny near Wroclaw (Breslau) is another area of importance for the organic chemical industry. In these three areas is situated about 80 per cent of the chemical industry.

10. Although the Poles were generally assumed to have taken over considerable plant in the territories ceded by Germany, such installations had, in fact, suffered severe war damage and were seldom rebuilt in their original form. The work of rebuilding damaged plants has not even yet been fully completed.

11. About a fifth of total planned chemical production in 1955 is to be in the field of large-scale organic synthesis based on the plants at Auschwitz (Zaklady Chemiczny Oswiecim) and at Brzeg Dolny (Zaklady Chemiczne Organicznych Polproduktow Rokita). The plant developed around the former I G works at Auschwitz is by far the biggest of its kind in the country. Coal and more recently natural gas are the raw materials for the plants. The Rokita works manufacture important organic intermediates and industrial auxiliary products. The production program includes ethylene oxide, glycols, synthetic detergents, textile and dyeing assistants, intermediates for dyestuffs and pharmaceuticals, solvents for the lacquer industry and softeners.

12. In the year 1954 20 million tons of coal will be coked, the coking plants being mainly in Silesia. The primaries and by-products are then to be further processed in works in Chorzow, Hindenburg, Adertal [sic] and Waldenburg.

13. In the dyestuffs field the Boruta plant, near Lodz, has reportedly begun manufacture of fast vat dyestuffs of a type not previously produced in Poland. Part of the dyestuffs production is exported, for example, to China. On offer are direct, sulphur, acid, chrome, union, vat, basic, leather, fur, and nigrosine dyestuffs, as well as lakes and pigments and oil-soluble dyestuffs.

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